

## **ROBERT JOHN WHIPPLE.**

### **Biography from the Lehi Centennial History**

Robert John Whipple was born in Salt Lake City November 13, 1869, and is a descendant of old New England stock. His father, Nelson Wheeler Whipple, was born July 11, 1818, in Sanford, Broom County, New York, and belongs to the same family as William Whipple, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

He came to Utah in 1851. His mother, Susan Gay Whipple, was born June 13, 1841, in Dekalb, Kemper County, Mississippi, and came to Utah in 1850. She died September 29, 1911. Until he was 16 years of age, Robert John attended school in the Nineteenth Ward Meetinghouse during the winter and in the summer worked with his father in Big Cottonwood Canyon running a saw mill. His father died July 5, 1887, when for a number of years he worked at the carpenter trade and contracting.

In 1892 he came to Lehi to work on the sugar factory, and was married to Susie Winn June 24, 1896. He labored as block teacher in the ward and as assistant to the bishop in the priest quorum from 1898 to 1903, as second assistant in the Sunday school in 1902, as second counselor in the presidency of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association from 1900 to 1903, and as president of the Y. M. M. I. A. in 1903. When the Lehi Ward was divided, he was selected as First Counselor to Andrew Fjeld in the Bishopric of the Lehi First Ward, which position he still holds.

In 1910 and 1911 he served as a member of the City Council. Mr. Whipple is one of Lehi's progressive citizens, deeply interested in the growth and welfare of the community.